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DEPT. OF REAL ESTATE
By\_

# BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF REAL ESTATE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

\* \* \*

In the Matter of the Accusation of 

RENE CUAUHTEMOC GARCIA, 
doing business as Express Home Loans, 
Express Property Management Services, 
Express Realty, Express Realty & Investments, 
Express Realty & Property Management, 
Rene Rick Garcia, and Rick Garcia, 

Respondent.

The Complainant, Veronica Kilpatrick, a Supervising Special Investigator of the State of California, for cause of Accusation against RENE CUAUHTEMOC GARCIA, doing business as Express Home Loans, Express Property Management Services, Express Realty, Express Realty & Investments, Express Realty & Property Management, Rene Rick Garcia, and Rick Garcia, ("Respondent") is informed and alleges as follows:

1.

The Complainant, Veronica Kilpatrick, acting in her official capacity as a Supervising Special Investigator of the State of California, makes this Accusation against Respondent RENE CUAUHTEMOC GARCIA.

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2.

All references to the "Code" are to the California Business and Professions Code and all references to "Regulations" are to Title 10, Chapter 6, California Code of Regulations.

## LICENSE HISTORY

3.

Respondent RENE CUAUHTEMOC GARCIA presently has license rights under the Real Estate Law, Part 1 of Division 4 of the Code as a real estate broker.

## **BROKERAGE**

# RENE CUAUHTEMOC GARCIA

4.

At all times mentioned, in the City of Perris, County of Riverside, Respondent acted as a real estate broker, conducting licensed activities within the meaning of Code section 10131(b) (leases or rents real property for others).

#### **AUDIT**

## RENE CUAUHTEMOC GARCIA

On February 27, 2024, the Department of Real Estate ("Department") completed audit examinations of the books and records of Respondent pertaining to the activities described in Paragraph 4 which require a real estate license. The audit examinations covered a period of time from July 1, 2021, to June 15, 2023. The audit examinations revealed violations of the Code and the Regulations as set forth in the following paragraphs, and as more fully discussed in Audit Report SD220033 and the exhibits and workpapers attached to said audit report.

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Respondent accepted or received funds in trust ("trust funds"). Thereafter, Respondent made deposits and or disbursements of such trust funds. During the examination period described in Paragraph 5 above, Respondent deposited or maintained trust funds in the following bank account:

Bank Account 1: Wells Fargo Bank account ending in 916.

#### AUDIT VIOLATIONS OF THE REAL ESTATE LAW

7.

In the course of activities described in Paragraph 4 above and during the examination periods described in Paragraph 5 above, Respondent acted in violation of the Code and the Regulations in that:

- 7(a) As of June 15, 2023, Respondent had a trust fund shortage in the amount of \$105,457.66 in Bank Account 1. Respondent did not have written consent from the owners of the trust funds to reduce the balance of trust funds to an amount less than the aggregate trust fund liabilities, in violation of Code section 10145 and Regulations section 2832.1.
- 7(b) Respondent did not maintain a complete and accurate control record or general ledger of all trust funds received and disbursed, in violation of Code section 10145 and Regulations section 2831.
- 7(c) Respondent did not maintain a complete and accurate separate record of all trust funds received and disbursed for each beneficiary in connection with Respondent's broker activities, in violation of Code section 10145 and Regulations section 2831.1.
- 7(d) Respondent did not perform and maintain a monthly reconciliation of all the separate records with the control record of all trust funds received and disbursed, in violation of Code section 10145 and Regulations section 2831.2.

7(e)	Bank account I used by Respondent for trust funds was not designated as	
a trust account and w	vas not in the name of Respondent as trustee or a fictitious name held by	
Respondent's real estate license as trustee, in violation of Code section 10145 and Regulations		
section 2832.		

- 7(f) Respondent commingled his own money with trust funds in Bank Account 1, in violation of Code sections 10145 and 10176(e) and Regulations section 2835.
- 7(g)Respondent performed unauthorized disbursements from Bank Account 1, that were marked for "Corporate Account Express", in violation of Code sections 10145 and 10176(i).
- 7(h) Respondent used the unlicensed fictitious business names "Express Realty", in violation of Code section 10159.5 and Regulations section 2731. Respondent cured the violation on March 13, 2024.
- 7(i) On or about August 3, 2023, a subpoena was served to Respondent for the production of books and records related to the brokerage activities conducted by Respondent. Respondent failed to retain and make available for examination, copying, and inspection the books, accounts, and records related to Respondent's brokerage activities for the audit period, in violation of Code section 10148.
- 7(j)The conduct, acts, or omissions of Respondent, as described in Paragraph 7, in failing to ensure compliance of the Real Estate Law by Respondent's officers, agents and employees, is in violation of Regulations section 2725.

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The conduct, acts, or omissions of Respondent, described in Paragraph 7 above, violated the Code and the Regulations as set forth below:

<u>PARAGRAPH</u>	PROVISIONS VIOLATED
7(a)	Code section 10145 and Regulations section 2832.1
7(b)	Code section 10145 and Regulations section 2831
7(c)	Code section 10145 and Regulations section 2831.1
7(d)	Code section 10145 and Regulations section 2831.2
7(e)	Code section 10145 and Regulations section 2832
7(f)	Code sections 10145 and 10176(e) and
	Regulations section 2835
7(g)	Code sections 10145 and 10176(i)
7(h)	Code section 10159.5 and Regulations section 2731
7(i)	Code section 10148
7(j)	Regulations section 2725

The foregoing violations constitute cause for the suspension or revocation of all the licenses, license endorsements, and license rights of Respondent under the Real Estate Law pursuant to the provisions of Code sections 10176(e), 10176(i), 10177(d), and/or 10177(g).

9.

Code section 10148(b) provides, in pertinent part, that the Real Estate Commissioner shall charge a real estate broker for the cost of any audit if the Commissioner has found in a final decision, following a disciplinary hearing, that the broker has violated Code section 10145 or a Regulation or rule of the Commissioner interpreting said Code section.

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Code Section 10106 provides, in pertinent part, that in any order issued in resolution of a disciplinary proceeding before the Department of Real Estate, the Commissioner may request the administrative law judge to direct a licensee found to have committed a violation of this part to pay a sum not to exceed the reasonable costs of the investigation and enforcement of the case.

WHEREFORE, Complainant prays that a hearing be conducted on the allegations of this Accusation and that upon proof thereof, a decision be rendered imposing disciplinary action against all the licenses, license endorsements, and license rights of Respondent RENE CUAUHTEMOC GARCIA under the Real Estate Law, for the cost of audit, investigation, and enforcement as permitted by law, and for such other and further relief as may be proper under other applicable provisions of law.

Dated at San Diego, California

this 16 day of August

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Veronica Kilpatrick Supervising Special Investigator

RENE CUAUHTEMOC GARCIA

Veronica Kilpatrick

Sacto.

Audits